

INDUSTRIAL SECTION

THE TIMES FOUNDED 1885.
THE DISPATCH FOUNDED 1890.

WHOLE NUMBER 17,879.

RICHMOND, VA., SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 1908.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

EMPORIA AND ITS VARIED INDUSTRIES

A Virginia Town That Is
Marching Onward to Com-
mercial Greatness.

COTTON MARKET AND LUMBER HEADQUARTERS

Many Factories Are Already in
Operation, and Good Room for
Many More — Competing
Freight Rates That Are
Attractive to Manu-
facturers.

By FRANK S. WOODSON.

EMPORIA, VA., March 28.—Virginia is fast learning how to stand on more than one leg. The time when agriculture was everything in the State and nobody sought to make a profit on anything that did not grow out of the rich soil and only one profit at that. That is to say Virginians simply grew a crop of one kind or another, sold the crop in the nearest market, pocketed the cash and that was an end of it so far as Virginians were concerned. They were content to let manufacturers elsewhere get all of the trimmings that came from the conversion of the raw material into the finished product. Virginians have found out in recent years that there are several profits to be made on the products of the soil, between the soil and the final consumer or wearer, and just as well as not these profits may be made at home.

Because Virginians have found out this thing, Virginia manufacturing towns are springing up along all the lines of railway, and they are making the old State mighty rich in one way and another. In other words Virginia is fast becoming a manufacturing State, as well as a great agricultural State. Manufacturing towns are getting more numerous and more important than Virginians realize.

Emporia to the Front.

Without any flourish of trumpets, or any brass band effects, but merely by the energy of its own people, the town of Emporia has become within the last decade a mighty important spot on the commercial map of Virginia. It has become so because it has taken advantage of its natural resources. In a word it has become a manufacturing town that is attracting national as well as local and State attention, and unless all of the signs of the times shall fall, Emporia will attract still greater attention from far and near, and the time is not far distant when it will be one of the leading manufacturing and commercial centres of Virginia and the South.

With an abundance of raw material of various kinds at its very door, with complete transportation facilities, with a promising water power awaiting development, with natural advantages unsurpassed, and with social influences that are evidences of the finest of Virginian citizenship, Emporia has every possible advantage, and it is no wonder that it has grown within a few years from a straggling village—two straggling villages in fact—into a commercial and manufacturing centre of great importance.

Two Towns in One.

Emporia was within the recollection of many people two towns, Bedford, on the north side of the Meherrin River, and Hickford, on the south side. In 1882 the towns were consolidated under the name of Emporia. They were consolidated by act of Legislature and in that year became one town by law, but for several years they remained very much apart in sentiment. There were rivalries and dissensions, but by and by the active young business men began pulling together in a commercial way and ever since then Emporia has been growing in commercial and industrial importance.

The spirit of co-operation and unity which has been accentuated here this week, when the Emporia Board of Trade was organized. A meeting of citizens of both sides of the river was held Wednesday afternoon in the courthouse, which meeting was largely attended by the members of at least three fraternal, trade and commercial organizations, and the delegates practically laid down their charters and united in one strong organization under the name of the Emporia Board of Trade.

Pulling Together Now.

This body is a broad-gauge concern, with eyes wide enough to see on two sides of a river at one glance, and is going to do great things for the up-building of Emporia and Greensville county.

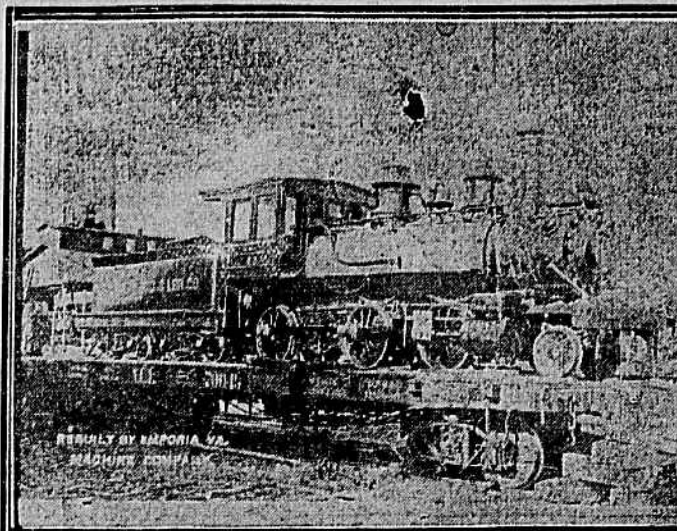
Notwithstanding the Meherrin River, some other things which have in days past divided the town to a greater or less extent, the business spirit of the town has ever been on the upward and great things have been accomplished. Emporia is full of monuments to the far-sightedness, energy and business sagacity of its people, monuments in the shape of great enterprises, splendid business houses, beautiful and costly residences, improved public schools, commodious churches, permanent municipal improvements, all of which go to make up a splendid interior town with a healthy, moral atmosphere, and a good place in which to live.

Public Improvements.

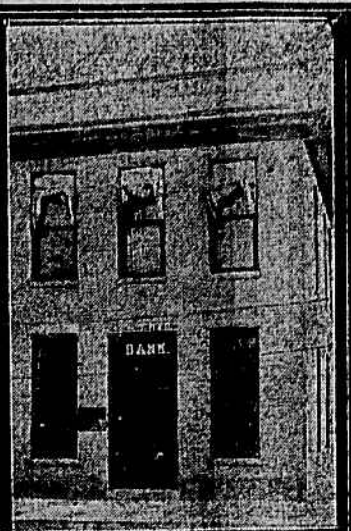
The population within the actual municipal limits is fully 3,000, and living within hearing and within its influence and trade reach are 1,000 more people, making practically a population of 4,000. The town's affairs have been wisely managed, and the city fathers can show some very substantial permanent improvements for the money they have expended and the small bonded debt they have incurred, amounting to only \$35,000.

This debt might have been larger, or the improvements that have been made might have been smaller, but for the aid of a well regulated dispensary, two of them in fact. The dispensaries, which furnish the thirsty with the necessary stimulants, are entirely divorced from politics and are managed

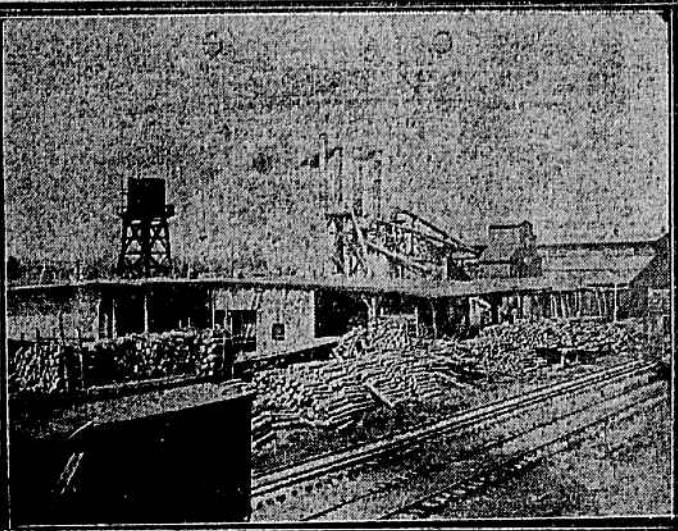
THE ENTERPRISING AND GROWING TOWN OF EMPORIA, VA.



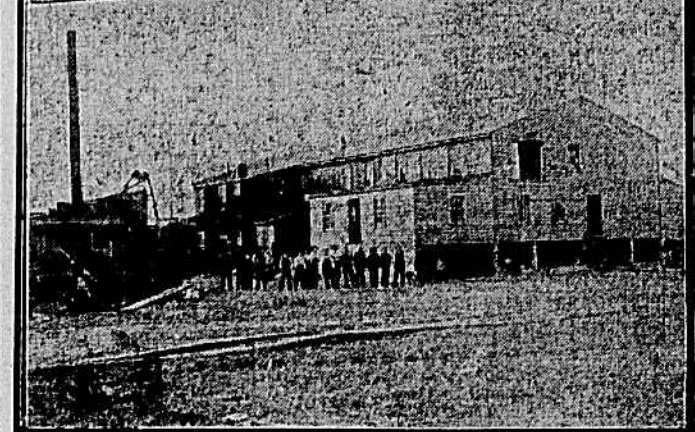
Emporia Machine and Foundry Company and its work.



Emporia Sash and Door Company's Plant.



Emporia Manufacturing Company's Plant.



Emporia Sash and Door Company's Plant.



Emporia Sash and Door Company's Plant.



Emporia Manufacturing Company's Plant.

GIVE UP OYSTERS; TAKE UP FARMING

Many People in Tidewater Leaving the Water and Returning to Agriculture.

FARMS ADVANCE IN VALUE

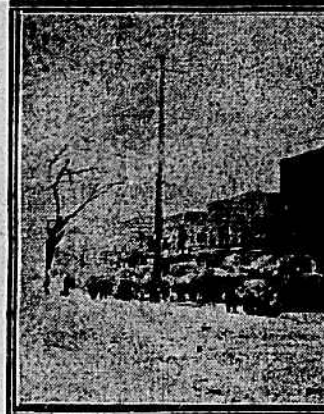
Some of Those Around Urbanna Increase 100 Per Cent. in Few Years.

URBANNA, VA., March 28.—Now that equinox, with its usual storms, wind, rain and snow, has passed and beautiful spring weather has come, the farmers have turned their attention to the cultivation of their lands and are busy preparing for their next crop, with renewed hope for good seasons and remunerative prices. There are in the Tidewater section, on the Rappahannock, as fine tracts of land as anywhere in Virginia, and since the drain upon the oyster rock has made that industry of less profit to those heretofore engaged in it for a living, many have become farmers and are looking to that source as a revenue instead of relying exclusively on the oyster.

There are as fine oysters in the Rappahannock as are to be had anywhere—none excel them in quality—but they are becoming scarce and the present season now about to close has not been profitable to those engaged in the business. As a market for them, the people have Baltimore to rely on, and the dealers in that city generally pay liberal prices, whenever their orders from the West will justify it. Residents of this section have to depend exclusively upon that city as a market for everything they ship as well as to buy in, as there is only one route, and several of other means of communication with any other. The people have been hoping for many years to see a railroad at Urbanna, as was promised when the engineers were surveying for a company through here some six or seven years ago, upon the assurance given by them that their company would certainly build it and in less than two years time our citizens would be able to visit Richmond by that route, but alas, those promises have never been kept. Now the people are trusting that after the present year of money stringency and lack of confidence has passed, we may see that hope realized.

Enhancing in Value.

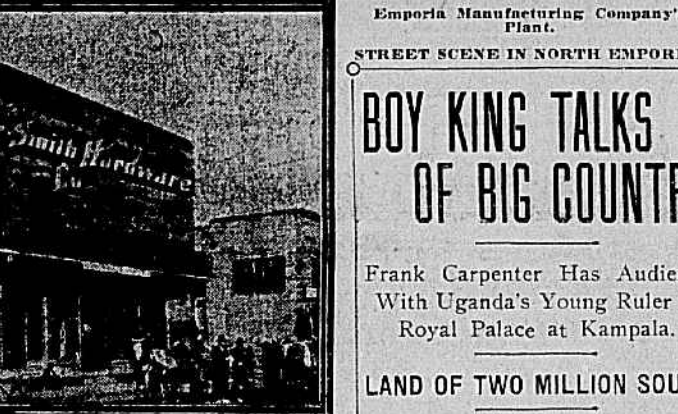
Our lands and houses are steadily advancing and all around are signs of prosperity. Many places that have been a few years back neglected, are now sought after at advanced prices, and one hears of sales around Urbanna, and in the town at such prices as would have been considered high figures a few years ago. One farm about a mile from here was sold for \$8,000 cash, which was bought three or four years since for \$3,500. Several of the lots in this town which have been recently bought, will have good, substantial buildings erected upon them, which no doubt will be ornamental to the town. Several residences were constructed the past year, one of which is only neglected, and now quite completed, is as handsome a house as can be found in all Tidewater section. This house is owned by Mr. L. B. Wegener, who has probably constructed more houses on the Rappahannock and its tributaries for the steamboat companies than any other man in the State and that is one reason he can afford such a residence. A fine high school building is to be erected, which will be quite an acquisition to the town and community.



KEYSTONE BLOCK, NORTH EMPORIA.



COTTON SALES DAY IN EMPORIA.



TILLAR-SMITH BLOCK, SOUTH EMPORIA.

LIGHT RECEIPTS PUSH PRICES UP

Tobacco of Good Quality in Demand, and Not Enough Coming in to Supply Needs.

Total sales of tobacco for last week showed a large decrease from that of the week before, there being only 398,325 pounds handled. In the first days of the week prices were considerably lower, but continued light receipts of good quality tobacco carried them, by the close of the market on Friday, to a much higher point. Dealers estimate that more than three-fourths of the crop has been sold, and think that prices from now on to the close of the season will be better each day. Thus far the average for what has been sold is the best for many years. For the entire 1907 crop there is little doubt that it will run close to \$10 per 100 pounds.

Good Sales at Danville.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] DANVILLE, VA., March 28.—Messrs. Danville Brothers in their weekly review of the tobacco market say: After seasonal receipts this week have been fairly large, considering the quantity now left in farmers' hands. Sales have gotten over each day before noon. The quality of the tobacco is better than the season is about closed. There is little other than scrap being brought to market, yet prices remain as firm as they were last week.

Season Over at Henderson.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] HENDERSON, N. C., March 28.—Tobacco receipts and breaks are small, the crop is nearly exhausted and the season is about closed. There is little other than scrap being brought to market, yet prices remain as firm as they were last week.

PLAN COTTON MILL FOR BEDFORD CITY

Large Part of the Stock Subscribed and Great Interest in the Enterprise.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] BEDFORD CITY, VA., March 28.—A meeting was held last night at the Courthouse of the subscribers to the cotton-mill. Mr. O. C. Rucker was called to the chair, and Mr. E. C. Burks chosen as secretary. The question of a name for the mill first came up, of the two "Bedford Cotton-Mills" (incorporated) and "Liberty Cotton-Mills," suggested, the decision was in favor of the former. A committee was appointed to nominate candidates for a board of directors, which consisted of Messrs. E. S. Smith, A. C. Hatcher and Dr. John W. Sale, who after retiring for consultation, reported the following names: Messrs. James P. Gray, J. D. Ballard, L. R. Gills, J. J. Scott, J. Gordon Smith, J. A. Clark and W. A. Falconer. There were other nominations made by individuals, but were withdrawn, and it was decided that those made by the committee were satisfactory, that they be elected unanimously, which was done. The committee to solicit the taking of stock for the enterprise, reported nearly \$60,000. On motion of Mr. L. R. Gills, the board of directors were added to the solicitors of stock, with instructions to "get busy."

MUCH BUILDING

Expected Activity Accompanies Opening of Spring.

With the opening of spring weather, building operations, and the office of Inspector Beck is being flooded with applications for permits to erect various kinds of structures and to make alterations and repairs in others. The total for March already makes a most encouraging showing, and with the two first days of the coming week to be included, the month will compare favorably with any since the creation of the new department.

The following permits were issued by Inspector Beck yesterday: Melinda Cary, to erect a frame tenement, two dwellings, at \$20 and \$22 North Thirtieth Street, in the annexed territory.

M. R. Bedford, to erect a detached frame stable of three stalls in the rear of 1911 Ivy Street; cost, \$200.

Claude L. Barks, to erect a brick dwelling on the north side of Grace Street, between Meadow and Allison Streets; cost, \$10,000.

John G. Garnett, to erect a brick dwelling No. 3028 Monument Avenue; cost, \$14,000.

Dr. William H. Parker, to erect a double frame tenement on the east side of Buchanan Street, between Christian and Richards Streets; cost, \$2,200.

Mrs. George Duncan and Mrs. W. T. Pubank, to erect a frame addition to No. 1112 Stuart Street; cost, \$250.

BOY KING TALKS OF BIG COUNTRY

Frank Carpenter Has Audience With Uganda's Young Ruler in Royal Palace at Kampala.

[Special Correspondence of The Times-Dispatch.] KAMPALA, Uganda. I have just returned from an audience with his royal highness, Daudi Chwa, the boy king of Uganda. He is the ruler, under the English protectorate, of more than 2,000,000 people, and the owner of a country as large as the State of Ohio, Virginia or Kentucky. His subjects are the most intelligent of the native races of Central Africa. They have a civilization of their own. They wear clothes of their own manufacture, made largely of bark, and they consider any exposure of their persons indecent. They do not mutilate their bodies by slashing them and sewing them into welts and scars like their near neighbors. They do not wear plugs in their ears nor rings in their noses, and do not file sharp or knock out their front teeth. They have a language of their own. They have their own books, and many of the native chiefs keep records of their court and official proceedings in typical writing, having secretaries who use machines for that purpose. They are rapidly advancing in civilization, and are to a large extent Christians.

These people are called the Baganda and their country is Uganda. They have long been the dominant race of the country, and they have, time and again, conquered the other peoples about Lake Victoria in war. Their neighboring tribes have always paid them tribute, and they are still the most promising of the negro races of the continent. Their little ruler may do much in hastening their advancement.

A Descendant of Kings.

This boy king has as blue blood as any monarch who sits on a European throne. The Baganda are an old nation, and they have had kings for generations. Their first king is said to have sprung from a monster, a python whose outline is carved on one of the great rocky hills of this country. His name was Bamba and he killed thousands of his subjects before he was overthrown. The king that we know best was Mutesa, who was reigning when the explorer, Speke, came to Uganda and was still on the throne during the expedition of Henry M. Stanley. Mutesa was converted to Christianity by Stanley. He was this boy's grandfather, and his father was the notorious King Mwanga, one of the bloodiest and wickedest tyrants on earth. Mwanga rebelled against the English, about eleven years ago, and was conquered by them. They deposed him and chose this boy, who was then a baby, in his stead. He has now more than twelve years of age, and in six or seven years more he will take the reins of government and assume the throne. In the meantime his kingdom and estate are being administered by a regency of three ministers, aided by the British Imperial Council, consisting of about twenty of the native chiefs of Uganda. In addition to the revenue from his own lands the boy has an allowance of \$3,000 a year from the British government; and this will be increased to \$7,500 a year when he reaches the age of eighteen. In the meantime the three regents act for him at a salary of \$1,000 each.

Uganda's Native Capital.

But first let me give you some idea of this town of Kampala, the native capital of Uganda. It is twenty-six miles from Entebbe, where the British government has its offices. Entebbe is the chief port on this side of Lake Victoria, and Kampala is reached by a wide road, over which the goods in jirikishas, or on horseback or on

REAL ESTATE AND BUILDING NEWS

All Parties Striving for Advantages From the Panic Scare.

ACTIVITY IN ALL BUILDING CIRCLES

Suburbs May Be a Little Ahead of City Wards in Matter of Building — But There Is Energy Everywhere About Solid Richmond.

The real estate market for the week past has not furnished any exciting developments, and while it has not shown very large transactions, finally consummated, it has been of absorbing interest to many dealers.

A number of large deals that have been on the string for weeks, and even months past, have gotten very near to the closing point, but somehow or some other way they have not quite reached it.

The situation seems to a layman to be a little curious. There seems to be ample funds seeking permanent investment in Richmond dirt; there seems, also, to be a good lot of Richmond realty that is for sale, and yet the buyers and sellers fail to get together. The real estate agents, who generally do the work of going between, are certainly not lacking in energy, and yet they all say it is hard to get buyers and sellers to get together, and the inability of the agents to get the two together explains the fewness of the transactions that were made last week.

Paul's Indirect Effects.

An agent who had a heart-to-heart talk with The Times-Dispatch man yesterday said: "It will be quite a while yet before we get entirely over some of the evil effects of that dreaded panic; I mean the side effects."

"You understand, the panic, as a panic, cut very little figure in Richmond, but both sides to the real estate equation are looking for some kind of a benefit from it. The prospective investor thinks he ought to be able to buy Richmond property for a good deal less than the prices prevailing a year or two ago, just because he has in some way heard that there was a panic somewhere. On the other hand, the owner of good Richmond dirt has in some way heard that there has been a panic which has scared capital away from the stock markets, and that all of that capital is seeking investment in real estate that is in every way substantial and immediate. Nothing except a fresher in James River, the like of which has never yet been seen can disturb the equilibrium of Richmond real estate, and so the holder of this kind of property argues that the fastest time ever known to get good money for pure Jim River dirt, or a kind of semi-panic time, when investment money is frightened from less inviting channels."

This general idea of conditions is that which obtains among speculators and business men. The business men have no wonder that they have been slow to buy, and, on the other hand, it is no wonder that the owners of good property have been slow to come to terms. This condition of affairs speaks volumes for the solidity of the old, solid old Richmond, but it is a little worrying to the real estate agents, who want to hurry up transactions in order that commissions may materialize.

The Real Sales.

In spite of all of these untoward conditions considerable business in real estate was done during the week just closed, the total of the deals being something like \$125,000.

It would take more than a column of space to tell of the various deals, for as a matter of fact, the great majority of them were on the small order. It is quite certain that no one transaction that was finally consummated during the week just closed amounted to more than \$5,000. There were some transactions practically closed that are of larger dimensions, but they have not been really closed, and some of them may never be.

Just by way of illustration, a big deal involving more than \$10,000, was on the point of consummation yesterday morning. All that was lacking was the signature of a little woman. She had already agreed verbally to sign up, but at the last moment, and when it came to "black and white," she exercised woman's privilege by changing her mind, and she did not sign up. The \$10,000 deal went galley west, and the real estate agent lost his commissions, and also his usual good temper, because one woman changed her mind, and surely she has a right to. Possibly it was about a right that she had left on the table; that part of the earth in which she held a dollar right.

Suburbs in the Swim.

It is more than likely that the suburbs have been really more active during the past week than the city precincts.

In all of the suburbs building operations are decidedly active. In Barton Heights, Highland Park and Chestnut Hill, they are decidedly active. In Barton Heights, because one woman changed her mind, and surely she has a right to. Possibly it was about a right that she had left on the table; that part of the earth in which she held a dollar right.

There has been a good deal of activity in Ginter Park during the past week, and some excellent sales were made. Three of the purchasers are having plans drawn for their residences, and work will be started as soon as the contracts can be let. The lower prices for building is stimulating this part of the business a great deal, and it is the part of wisdom to take advantage of the present situation. Building costs will undoubtedly be much higher within a few months than now.

Messrs. C. P. Cadot, Frank A. Haughton, Alex. P. Ryland, C. B. Garnett, John Garland Pollard, John A. Lan-

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